

# FARMINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

## POLICY AND PROCEDURE



**Policy Number:**  
241-13

**Effective Date:**  
08/17/2016

**Subject:**  
Dual-Purpose Motorcycles

**Approved by:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S.D. Hebbe".

**Steven D. Hebbe, Chief of Police**



### PURPOSE:

To establish guidelines for the operation of-Dual Purpose Motorcycles.

### POLICY:

It is the policy of the Farmington Police Department to utilize Dual-Purpose Motorcycles operated by trained personnel to provide an agile, versatile, multi-use vehicle with the ability to function both on and off roadways.

### PROCEDURE:

#### **Use of Motorcycles:**

The primary function of Dual-Purpose Motorcycles is directed patrols, but they may also be utilized as a patrol unit. As with any Department owned vehicle, the guidelines outlined in the Vehicle Policy and Procedure # 299-02 shall be strictly adhered to, where applicable, regarding the use of these vehicles.

Dual-Purpose Motorcycles are primarily used to supplement the basic patrol function, as necessary. The decision to utilize Dual-Purpose Motorcycles is at the discretion of the Shift Supervisor, Chief of Police designee. The Dual-Purpose Motorcycle program is administered by the District Coordinator Unit Sergeant.

Dual-Purpose Motorcycles are not to be operated without the use of an approved and properly secured motorcycle helmet, eye protection and riding gloves.

Dual-Purpose Motorcycles are not to be used to transport prisoners or non-police personnel. Dual-Purpose Motorcycles are, by design, capable of transporting one passenger. This practice is not recommended, and should only be done in an emergency situation.

Dual-Purpose Motorcycle Officers are not to operate Dual-Purpose Motorcycles in a manner that would endanger the safety of themselves or others.

Dual-Purpose Motorcycles are not utilized during periods of inclement weather which could endanger the safety of the officer. The Dual-Purpose Motorcycle Officer has the discretion of determining what types of weather conditions constitute a hazard.

During times when Dual-Purpose Motorcycles are used in an off-roadway capacity, it is recommended that Dual-Purpose Motorcycle Officers be deployed in groups of not less than two officers. In order to maximize

usage and effectiveness, the Department may authorize the deployment of a single officer, depending on the circumstances and need.

### **Care and Maintenance:**

The guidelines set forth in the owner's manual issued with each Dual-Purpose Motorcycle are followed regarding the use, care, and maintenance of the motorcycle.

It is the responsibility of the District Coordinator Unit Sergeant or designee to monitor the motorcycles and ensure that proper repair and maintenance is completed when needed. All repairs and routine maintenance are to be performed by an approved motorcycle mechanic.

Dual-Purpose Motorcycles are stored at the Farmington Police Department or other approved location. In all cases, the motorcycle is protected from the elements and all precautions against theft and vandalism are taken.

### **Pursuits:**

Dual-Purpose Motorcycles are not to be utilized in motor vehicle pursuits. If a Dual-Purpose Motorcycle Officer initiates a motor vehicle pursuit in compliance with the Motor Vehicle Pursuit policy and procedure #241-03, the Dual-Purpose Motorcycle Officer will immediately relinquish control of the pursuit to the first available marked police unit. The Dual-Purpose Motorcycle Officer may then attempt to maintain visual contact with the pursuing police unit without using excessive speeds, and provide all relevant information to the Communications Center.

### **Equipment:**

Each Dual-Purpose Motorcycle is equipped with emergency lights, siren, and at least one saddle bag.

Additional equipment carried on the motorcycle, at a minimum, is as follows:

1. Orange reflective safety vest;
2. Traffic citations and municipal citations;
3. Job related clip boards and forms.

### **Uniforms:**

Dual-Purpose Motorcycle Officers wear the standard issue patrol officer's uniform. For safety reasons, Dual-Purpose Motorcycle Officers are allowed to blouse the legs of their pants.

As resources allow, the Department may provide an additional specialized uniform, safety equipment, and boots designed for the sole use of Dual-Purpose Motorcycle patrol.

As a minimum requirement, the Department provides each Dual-Purpose Motorcycle Officer with an approved helmet, eye protection, and riding gloves.

**Qualifications and Training:**

Dual-Purpose Motorcycles are only operated by those officers who have been selected as a Dual-Purpose Motorcycle Officer pursuant to the Specialty Position Policy and Procedure #116-02, and have been trained in the safe use and operation of the motorcycle.

Personnel selected for the position of Dual-Purpose Motorcycle Officer must have a valid New Mexico driver's license with appropriate motorcycle endorsement.

Personnel selected for the position of Dual-Purpose Motorcycle Officer must be able to show a working ability to physically handle the size and weight of the motorcycle.

Prior to being allowed to utilize a Dual-Purpose Motorcycle, officers receive training in the safe operation of the motorcycle, must successfully complete a Police Dual-Purpose Motorcycle Rider's course and periodic qualifications, as determined by a certified motorcycle instructor.